



TENNESSEE  
AGRICULTURAL  
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## TENNESSEE WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



Released Weekly April - November

2000 Weather Crop 1

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Week Ending April 2, 2000

### TENNESSEE FARMERS BUSY WITH SPRINGTIME ACTIVITIES

With Spring in the air, farmers across the Volunteer State are busy preparing for the upcoming crop season. Field preparation and pasture reconditioning were the main activities reported last week. Corn planting is off to a quick start this year with some beginning as early as the first week of March. As of Sunday, 14 percent had been planted, ahead of last year and the five-year average. The State's wheat crop is rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Top-dressing is virtually complete and producers are now spraying herbicides as needed. The State's cattle herd is in mostly good condition with most locations reporting adequate hay stocks. Apple and peach trees look to have escaped major frost damage this spring. Widespread rains this past weekend were a welcome sight, especially for livestock producers who needed to replenish farm ponds. Five days were considered suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 12 percent short, 75 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent very short, 32 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

#### CROP PROGRESS: Through April 2, 2000

#### CROP CONDITION: On March 31, 2000

Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Planted	14	N/A	3	7	Wheat	1	2	15	50	32
Tobacco - Seeded	82	N/A	71	75	Pastures	0	9	37	48	6
Tobacco - Plants Up	50	N/A	63	43	Cattle	0	5	26	60	9
Winter Wheat - Jointed	55	N/A	41	47						
Winter Wheat - Top Dressed	96	N/A	87	61						
Apples - Budding or Beyond	93	N/A	59	65						
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	34	N/A	27	28						
Peaches - Budding or Beyond	95	N/A	90	84						
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	75	N/A	77	66						

**CORN:** Rain showers this past weekend brought planting to a standstill in most locations. As of Sunday, 14 percent of the crop had been planted, compared to only 3 percent at this time last year. Excellent spring weather allowed producers to get an earlier start than normal. Planting will be in high gear once fields dry out from the recent rains.

**TOBACCO:** As of Sunday, 82 percent of tobacco beds had been seeded, slightly ahead of normal. Fifty percent of these beds have plants up with no major problems reported thus far.

**WHEAT:** The wheat crop is currently rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Most producers have completed top-dressing and no major damage from frost, disease, or insects have been reported. Producers are now spraying herbicides as needed

**FRUITS:** Warm spring weather has apple and peach trees developing ahead of normal with virtually all in the budding stage. Most areas have escaped major frost damage thus far.

**PASTURES & CATTLE:** The State's cattle herd is in mostly good condition. Most farmers report adequate hay stocks, although some have had to seek additional feed sources this past winter.

This is the first issue of the *Tennessee Weather & Crop Bulletin* for the 2000 crop season. The Bulletin is released weekly throughout the crop season ending around early November. It is based on reports received from county agents with the Extension Service and local cooperators.

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 04/02/00				Current Week 04/02/00	Rain	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN		Days			Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	80	44	58	+1	1.11	5	0.84	+0.46	7	+3
Bristol	74	30	50	-2	0.57	5	0.01	-0.21	5	+5
Brownsville_TN	78	42	57	+1	1.00	3	0.68	+0.34	5	+3
Chattanooga	78	39	58	+4	1.58	4	1.17	+0.84	11	+9
Clarksville_Sew	81	34	54	+1	1.61	5	0.92	+0.59	5	+3
Cookeville	76	28	50	-3	1.11	5	0.29	-0.04	0	+0
Covington	79	43	58	+3	0.04	1	0.00	-0.36	5	+2
Crossville_AP	70	28	51	-1	1.25	4	0.24	-0.10	3	+3
Dickson_AG	77	35	53	-2	0.68	3	0.18	-0.16	5	+3
Dover_1W	78	35	55	+2	1.50	3	0.87	+0.53	9	+7
Dyersburg	75	41	56	-2	1.52	4	0.23	-0.09	7	+3
Erwin_1W	78	31	52	+3	0.52	3	0.08	-0.20	0	-2
Huntingdon_Wate	77	37	54	+1	1.11	5	0.51	+0.19	4	+2
Jackson_AG	78	41	56	+2	1.19	4	0.81	+0.49	5	+3
Kingston_AG	77	33	54	+3	1.20	4	0.30	-0.03	3	+3
Knoxville_AP	75	33	54	+1	1.46	5	0.22	-0.06	6	+5
Lewisburg	78	35	53	+0	1.53	3	0.90	+0.57	3	+1
Lexington_TN	77	40	56	+3	1.81	4	1.03	+0.71	9	+9
Linden	80	38	54	+1	1.66	4	0.68	+0.34	2	+0
Martin	78	38	54	+0	0.79	4	0.16	-0.18	6	+4
Mc_Minnville_Tn	75	33	54	-1	1.07	3	0.51	+0.18	5	+2
Memphis_AG	80	45	58	+1	1.20	4	0.88	+0.52	5	-1
Milan	79	33	52	-2	1.29	5	0.55	+0.22	2	+0
Murfreesboro_5N	75	33	52	-3	1.23	3	0.35	+0.03	0	-5
Nashville	77	34	55	-1	0.59	3	0.15	-0.15	9	+7
Newcomb	76	27	49	-1	0.73	3	0.01	-0.30	0	+0
Oneida	72	26	49	+0	0.75	4	0.21	-0.10	0	-2
Pikeville	75	30	53	-2	1.16	3	0.66	+0.33	3	+1
Portland_TN	77	31	53	+0	0.81	3	0.30	-0.01	1	+1
Pulaski_Water_P	78	39	55	-3	0.32	3	0.00	-0.34	2	-2
Savannah_6SW	81	42	58	+0	1.37	4	1.21	+0.85	8	+6
Sparta_TN	75	29	53	-1	1.45	3	0.34	+0.02	7	+7
Springfield	77	29	51	-1	0.75	4	0.21	-0.09	2	+1
Springhill	81	38	55	+4	1.22	3	0.68	+0.33	8	+6
Union_City	75	36	53	-1	0.45	2	0.25	-0.07	2	+0

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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